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LOC.

PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Evans-Beauchamp et al. Art Unit: Not yet assigned
Serial No.: 09/908,984 Examiner: Not yet assigned
Filed: July 18, 2001
Title: Decision Engine and Method and Applications Thereof

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Preliminary Amendment

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 18.

REMARKS

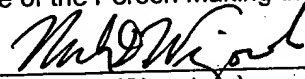
Applicants are filing this preliminary amendment to place the application more rapidly in condition for allowance. Applicants believe all the pending claims to be in such condition, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner would like to discuss the application in more detail, or feels a teleconference would advance prosecution of the same, she is requested to call the undersigned at (562) 244-5671.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Box Amendment, Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

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